

(i) *Department not responsible for damage.* This treatment is approved to assure quarantine security against Mexican fruit fly. From the literature available, the fruits authorized for treatment under this section are believed tolerant to the treatment; however, the facility operator and shipper are responsible for determination of tolerance. The Department of Agriculture and its inspectors assume no responsibility for any loss or damage resulting from any treatment prescribed or supervised. Additionally, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission is responsible for ensuring that irradiation facilities are constructed and operated in a safe manner. Further, the Food and Drug Administration is responsible for ensuring that irradiated foods are safe and wholesome for human consumption.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 0579–0215)

[70 FR 33269, June 7, 2005, as amended at 71 FR 4461, Jan. 27, 2006]

§ 305.33 Irradiation treatment of regulated articles to be moved interstate from areas quarantined for Mediterranean fruit fly.

Irradiation, carried out in accordance with the provisions of this section, is approved as a treatment for any berry, fruit, nut, or vegetable listed as a regulated article in § 301.78–2(a) of this chapter.

(a) *Approved facility.* The irradiation treatment facility and treatment protocol must be approved by the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service. In order to be approved, a facility must:

(1) Be capable of administering the approved dose for Mediterranean fruit fly listed in § 305.31(a) to the fruits and vegetables;¹⁰

(2) Be constructed so as to provide physically separate locations for treated and untreated fruits and vegetables, except that fruits and vegetables traveling by conveyor directly into the irradiation chamber may pass through an area that would otherwise be separated. The locations must be separated by a permanent physical barrier such as a wall or chain link fence 6 or more

feet high to prevent transfer of cartons;

(3) Complete a compliance agreement with the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service as provided in § 301.78–6 of this chapter; and

(4) Be certified by Plant Protection and Quarantine for initial use and annually for subsequent use. Recertification is required in the event that an increase or decrease in radioisotope or a major modification to equipment that affects the delivered dose. Recertification may be required in cases where a significant variance in dose delivery is indicated.

(b) *Treatment monitoring.* Treatment must be carried out under the monitoring of an inspector. This monitoring must include inspection of treatment records and unannounced inspection visits to the facility by an inspector. Facilities that carry out continual irradiation operations must notify an inspector at least 24 hours before the date of operations. Facilities that carry out periodic irradiation operations must notify an inspector of scheduled operations at least 24 hours before scheduled operations.¹¹

(c) *Packaging.* Fruits and vegetables that are treated within a quarantined area must be packaged in the following manner:

(1) The cartons must have no openings that will allow the entry of fruit flies and must be sealed with seals that will visually indicate if the cartons have been opened. They may be constructed of any material that prevents the entry of fruit flies and prevents oviposition by fruit flies into the fruit in the carton.¹²

(2) The pallet-load of cartons must be wrapped before it leaves the irradiation facility in one of the following ways:

(i) With polyethylene sheet wrap;

(ii) With net wrapping; or

(iii) With strapping so that each carton on an outside row of the pallet load is constrained by a metal or plastic strap.

(3) Packaging must be labeled with treatment lot numbers, packing and treatment facility identification and

¹⁰ See footnote 2 of this subpart.

¹¹ See footnote 6 of this subpart.

¹² See footnote 3 of this subpart.

location, and dates of packing and treatment.

(d) *Dosage.* The fruits and vegetables must receive the approved dose for Mediterranean fruit fly listed in § 305.31(a).¹³

(e) *Dosimetry systems.* (1) Dosimetry must demonstrate that the absorbed dose, including areas of minimum and maximum dose, is mapped, controlled, and recorded.

(2) Absorbed dose must be measured using a dosimetry system that can accurately measure an adsorbed dose of the approved dose for Mediterranean fruit fly listed in § 305.31(a).

(3) The utilization of the dosimetry system, including its calibration and the number and placement of dosimeters used, must be in accordance with the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) standards.¹⁴

(f) *Records.* Records or invoices for each treated lot must be made available for inspection by an inspector during normal business hours (8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays). An irradiation processor must maintain records as specified in this section for a period of time that exceeds the shelf life of the irradiated food product by 1 year, and must make these records available for inspection by an inspector. These records must include the lot identification, scheduled process, evidence of compliance with the scheduled process, ionizing energy source, source calibration, dosimetry, dose distribution in the product, and the date of irradiation.

(g) *Request for approval and inspection of facility.* Persons requesting approval of an irradiation treatment facility and treatment protocol must submit the request for approval in writing to the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Plant Protection and Quarantine, Center for Plant Health Science and Technology, 1730 Varsity Drive, Suite 400, Raleigh, NC 27606. Before the Administrator determines whether an irradiation facility is eligible for approval, an inspector will make a personal inspection of the facility to determine whether it complies with the

standards of paragraph (a) of this section.

(h) *Denial and withdrawal of approval.*

(1) The Administrator will withdraw the approval of any irradiation treatment facility when the irradiation processor requests in writing the withdrawal of approval.

(2) The Administrator will deny or withdraw approval of an irradiation treatment facility when any provision of this section is not met. Before withdrawing or denying approval, the Administrator will inform the irradiation processor in writing of the reasons for the proposed action and provide the irradiation processor with an opportunity to respond. The Administrator will give the irradiation processor an opportunity for a hearing regarding any dispute of a material fact, in accordance with rules of practice that will be adopted for the proceeding. However, the Administrator will suspend approval pending final determination in the proceeding, if he or she determines that suspension is necessary to prevent the spread of any dangerous insect infestation. The suspension will be effective upon oral or written notification, whichever is earlier, to the irradiation processor. In the event of oral notification, written confirmation will be given to the irradiation processor within 10 days of the oral notification. The suspension will continue in effect pending completion of the proceeding and any judicial review of the proceeding.

(i) *Department not responsible for damage.* This treatment is approved to assure quarantine security against Mediterranean fruit fly. From the literature available, the fruits and vegetables authorized for treatment under this section are believed tolerant to the treatment; however, the facility operator and shipper are responsible for determination of tolerance. The Department of Agriculture and its inspectors assume no responsibility for any loss or damage resulting from any treatment prescribed or supervised. Additionally, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission is responsible for ensuring that irradiation facilities are constructed and operated in a safe manner. Further, the Food and Drug Administration is responsible for ensuring that irradiated

¹³ See footnote 2 of this subpart.

¹⁴ See footnote 4 of this subpart.

§ 305.34

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foods are safe and wholesome for human consumption.

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§ 305.34 Irradiation treatment of certain regulated articles from Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

(a) *Approved irradiation treatment.* (1) *Commodity-specific doses.* Irradiation, carried out in accordance with the provisions of this section, is approved as a treatment for the following fruits and vegetables from Hawaii at the specified dose levels:

IRRADIATION FOR PLANT PESTS IN HAWAIIAN FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

Commodity	Dose (gray)
Abiu	150
Atemoya	150
Capsicum spp. (peppers)	150
Carambola	150
Cucurbita spp. (squash)	150
Eggplant	150
Litchi ¹	150
Longan	150
Mango	300
Papaya	150
Pineapple	150
Rambutan	150
Sapodilla	150
Sweetpotato ¹	400 or 150
Tomato	150

(2) *Pest-specific doses.* Any articles from Puerto Rico or the U.S. Virgin Islands, as well as any articles from Hawaii not listed in paragraph (a)(1) of this section, that are required by part 318 of this chapter to be treated or subjected to inspection to control one or more of the plant pests listed in § 305.31(a) may instead be treated with irradiation. Articles treated with irradiation for plant pests listed in § 305.31(a) must be irradiated at the doses listed in § 305.31(a), and the irradiation treatment must be conducted in accordance with the other requirements of this section.

(b) *Conditions of movement.* Articles from Hawaii, Puerto Rico, or the U.S. Virgin Islands may be authorized for movement in accordance with this sec-

tion only if the following conditions are met:

(1) *Location.* The irradiation treatment must be carried out at an approved facility in Hawaii, Puerto Rico, or the U.S. Virgin Islands or on the mainland United States. Articles authorized under this section for treatment on the mainland may be treated in any State on the mainland United States except Alabama, Arizona, California, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Nevada, New Mexico, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, or Virginia. Prior to treatment, the articles may not move into or through Alabama, Arizona, California, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Nevada, New Mexico, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, or Virginia, except that movement is allowed through Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas, as an authorized stop for air cargo, or as a transloading location for shipments that arrive by air but that are subsequently transloaded into trucks for overland movement from Dallas/Fort Worth into an authorized State by the shortest route.

(2) *Approved facility.* The irradiation treatment facility and treatment protocol must be approved by the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service. In order to be approved, a facility must:

(i) Be capable of administering the minimum absorbed ionizing radiation doses specified in paragraph (a) of this section to the articles;¹⁵

(ii) Be constructed so as to provide physically separate locations for treated and untreated articles, except articles traveling by conveyor directly into the irradiation chamber may pass through an area that would otherwise be separated. The locations must be separated by a permanent physical barrier such as a wall or chain link fence six or more feet high to prevent transfer of cartons. Untreated articles shipped to the mainland United States from Hawaii, Puerto Rico, or the U.S. Virgin Islands in accordance with this section may not be packaged for shipment in a carton with treated articles;

(iii) Complete a compliance agreement with the Animal and Plant

¹ Litchi and sweetpotato are also subject to the additional inspection requirements in paragraph (b)(7) of this section.

¹⁵ See footnote 2 of this subpart.